AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing virus infection ~~by detecting the virus infection in a network~~ performed by a computer connected to a network, comprising steps of:

obtaining communication information when a virus intrudes into the computer;

detecting a virus source computer based on the communication information obtained;

sending a message announcing an antivirus attack on the virus source computer; and

making the antivirus attack on the virus source computer from the computer by imposing a high load on the virus source computer.

2. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing virus infection according to Claim 1, wherein:

a decoy accessible through the network is provided to a computer that monitors intrusion of a virus, for receiving access to said decoy to obtain communication information and to detect virus intrusion; and

said decoy is one or more of a decoy folder stored in a storage unit, a decoy application stored in the storage unit, and a server formed virtually in the storage unit.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing virus infection according to ~~Claim 3~~Claim 1, wherein:

said high load is imposed on the virus source computer by increasing traffic of said computer.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing virus infection according to ~~Claim 3~~Claim 1, wherein:

said high load is imposed on the virus source computer by sending a large number of requests to which a CPU of said computer should respond.

6. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection ~~by detecting the virus infection in a network~~formed on a computer connected to a network, comprising:

a communication information analysis means that detects intrusion of a virus into the computer, and then on detecting virus intrusion, detects a virus source computer based on communication information obtained when the virus intrudes;

a computer attack means that makes an antivirus attack on the virus source computer through the network from the computer, for suppressing operation of the virus; ~~and~~

a message sending means that sends a message for announcing a start of the attack, to the infected computer; and

said computer attack means imposes a high load on the virus source computer.

7. (Previously Presented) A system for preventing virus infection according to Claim 6, wherein:

said system further comprises a decoy means accessible through the network; and

said communication information analysis means detects virus intrusion into said decoy means, and on detection of the virus intrusion, detects a virus source computer, based on the communication information obtained when the virus intrudes.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection according to ~~Claim 8~~Claim 6, wherein:

said computer attack means imposes the high load on the virus source computer by increasing traffic of said computer.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection according to ~~Claim 8~~Claim 6, wherein:

said computer attack means imposes the high load on the virus source computer by sending a large number of requests to which a CPU of said computer should respond.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection according to one of Claims 6, 7, ~~8,~~ 9 and 10, wherein:

~~said system further comprises a detection report transmission means that sends a detection report to an administrator of the virus source computer; and~~

said computer attack means continues to make the antivirus attack on the virus source computer until a countermeasure against the virus has been completed.

12. (Original) A system for preventing virus infection according to Claim 6, wherein:

said decoy means is a decoy folder realized by an application provided in a decoy server that is formed virtually in a storage unit of a computer connected to the network.

13. (Original) A system for preventing virus infection according to Claim 6, wherein:

said decoy means is a decoy application realized as an application provided in a decoy server that is formed virtually in a storage unit of a computer connected to the network.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection according to one of Claims 6, 7, ~~8,~~ 9 and 10, further comprising:

an alarm sound generation means that generates an alarm sound in ~~a~~ an attacking terminal unit at a start of the attack or after the start of the attack.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection according to one of ~~Claims 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10~~Claim 6, further comprising:

a requesting means that notifies a network address of the virus source computer to another computer connected to the network and requests to said computer for making an antivirus attack on the virus source computer.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection ~~by detecting the virus infection in a network~~formed on a computer connected to a network, comprising:

a request receiving means that receives a request for making an antivirus attack on a virus source computer; and

a computer attack means in the computer that makes an antivirus attack on said virus source computer through the network for suppressing operation of a virus, based on said request received.

18. (Currently Amended) A program stored on a computer readable medium that is read into a computer connected to a network and makes the computer operate to prevent ~~for making a computer prevent~~ virus infection, wherein:

~~said program~~ the program makes said computer realize:

_____a communication information analysis means that detects intrusion of a virus, and then on detecting virus intrusion, detects a virus source computer based on communication information obtained when the virus intrudes;

_____a computer attack means that makes an antivirus attack on the virus source computer from the computer through the network, for suppressing operation of the virus; ~~and~~

_____a message sending means that sends a message for announcing a start of the attack, to the infected computer; and

_____said computer attack means imposes a high load on the virus source computer.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection ~~by detecting the virus infection in a network, comprising~~according to Claim 6, further comprising:

~~_____a communication information analysis means that detects intrusion of a virus, and on detecting virus intrusion, detects a virus source computer, based on communication information obtained when the virus intrudes;~~

~~_____a computer attack means that makes an antivirus attack on the virus source computer through the network, for suppressing operation of the virus; and~~

an alarm sound generation means that generates an alarm sound in an attacking terminal unit at a start of the attack or after the start of the attack.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing virus infection ~~by detecting the virus infection in a network, comprising~~according to claim 6, further comprising:

~~a communication information analysis means that detects intrusion of a virus, and on detecting virus intrusion, detects a virus source computer, based on communication information obtained when the virus intrudes;~~

a detection report transmission means that sends a detection report to an administrator of the virus source computer.